

MANSFIELD AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
APPROVED Minutes of January 4, 2011 meeting
Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building, Conference Room B, 7:30 p.m.

1. Chairman Al Cyr called the meeting to order at 7:40.

PRESENT: Al Cyr, Charlie Galgowski, Ed Wazer, Vicky Wetherell, Meredith Poehlitz, Chris Dittrich, Jennifer Kaufman (staff)

2. Minutes of the December 7, 2010, meeting were approved.

Old Business

3. *Quarterly Report to Town Council* The committee reviewed a draft of this report prepared by Kathleen Paterson. Changes were suggested, and Jennifer will send a reviews draft to the committee for approval before it is forwarded to the Council.

4. *Agricultural Zoning Regulations* The subcommittee is working on a draft for committee review.

5. *Farmland Use Agreements* The subcommittee reported that the lease format is not acceptable, so that "land-use agreements" would be the preferred type of contract for use of Town land to farmers. The subcommittee will have preliminary recommendations to present at the February meeting.

6. *Contacting local farmers* The committee decided that there is not enough time to set up a forum in February, so the subcommittee will work on a draft of farmer survey questions for the committee's February meeting.

New Business

7. *Review of 2010 Agricultural Lease Report Form s* The committee reviewed the individual reports and suggested items to include in future land-use agreements.

8. *Presentation to the Sustainability Committee meeting on January 26 at 7:00 p.m. (Note change in time).* Members of the committee will make a presentation to this committee about agriculture in Mansfield.

Items for future agendas

Review ag lease policy, ag zoning regulations, farmer survey draft (Feb.)

Review survey results, draft incentives action plan, ag talking points/ publicity campaign (Mar).

The meeting adjourned at 8: 50.